

10/560801

IAP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 15 DEC 2005  
PATENT

S/N unknown

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: HASHIMOTO et al. Examiner: unknown  
Serial No.: Unknown Group Art Unit: Unknown  
Filed: Concurrent herewith Docket: 10873.1782USWO  
Title: COMPOUND SEMICONDUCTOR FILM, SOLAR CELL,  
AND PRODUCTION THEREOF

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

Express Mail mailing label number: EV 775296127 US

Date of Deposit: DECEMBER 15, 2005

I hereby certify that the papers listed below are being deposited with the United States Postal Service Express Mail Post Office to Addressee service under 37 CFR 1.10 in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Arlington, VA 22313-1450.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: RALYNN WILHELM

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c))**

MS PCT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. At least some of the references were recently cited in an International Search Report, mailed February 22, 2005.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, which is not an application under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each non-U.S. document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided. A copy of the

International Search Report is enclosed. Applicants believe that the references from the ISR are available to the Examiner and therefore are not supplying copies.


No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMRE, SCHUMANN, MUELLER &  
LARSON, P.C.  
P.O. Box 2902  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0902  
(612) 465-3800

Dated: December 15, 2005

By:   
Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No. 30,300

DPM:nel

Date Mailed: DECEMBER 15, 2005

Sheet 1 of 1

<b>FORM 1449*</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>  <b>IN AN APPLICATION</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number: 10873.1782USWO	Application Number: UNKNOWN <b>10/560801</b>
	Applicant: HASHIMOTO et al.	
	Filing Date: CONCURRENT HEREWITH	Group Art Unit: UNKNOWN

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	6,259,016	7.10.2001	NEGAMI et al.				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	2000-332273	11.30.2000	JAPAN			ABSTRACT AND PARTIAL	
	11-026789	1.29.1999	JAPAN			ABSTRACT AND PARTIAL	
	3249342	11.9.2001	JAPAN			ABSTRACT	
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
		Katsumi KUSHIYA et al., "Application of Zn-Compound Buffer Layer for Polycrystalline CuInSe <sub>2</sub> -Based Thin-Film Solar Cells", Jpn. J. Appl. Phys. Vol. 35 (1996), pp. 4383-4388, Part 1, No. 8, August 1996 (identified in the specification and the ISR)					
		C.H. HUANG et al., "Study of Cd-free buffer layers using In <sub>x</sub> (OH,S) <sub>y</sub> on CIGS solar cells", Solar Energy Materials & Solar Cells, Vol. 69, 2001, pp. 131-137 (identified in the ISR)					
		I.K. SOU et al., "Molecular-beam Epitaxy-grown ZnMgS ultraviolet photodetectors" Applied Physics Letters, Vol. 78, No. 13, 26 March 2001, pp. 1811-1813 (identified in the ISR)					

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	